

India (Diptera: Drosophilidae). *Oriental Insects*. 12 (2): 259-263.

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of nagarhole, South India, including description of a new species (Diptera: Drosophilidae). *Proc. Ind. Acc. Sci. (Anim. Sci.)* 89: 235-241.

A NEW SPECIES OF HIGH ALTITUDE SPIDER OF THE GENUS
ERIGONE AUDOUIN (FAMILY: ERIGONIDAE) FROM INDIA¹

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(With six text-figures)

The spiders of the genus *Erigone* (Family Erigonidae) are little known from India. The only species *Erigone pseudoyagans* Caporiacco (1935) was described from Karakorum area. Holm (1960) has published a comprehensive study on spiders of the family Erigonidae from East African Mountains and Locket and Millidge (1935) have described many European species of this family. The spiders of this genus are small and inconspicuous and their webs are irregular, generally made in the hollows of stones at high altitudes. Only by moving the stones and with careful observation can these tiny spiders be seen on their irregular webs.

While examining the spider collections received from Dr. R. K. Varshney, Superintending Zoologist, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, which were collected by him from Rohtang Pass, I came across a new species of spider of the genus *Erigone*, which is described here. It is the second species of this genus from India.

The type specimen will in due course be deposited in the National Collections, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

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Erigone rohtangensis sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-6)

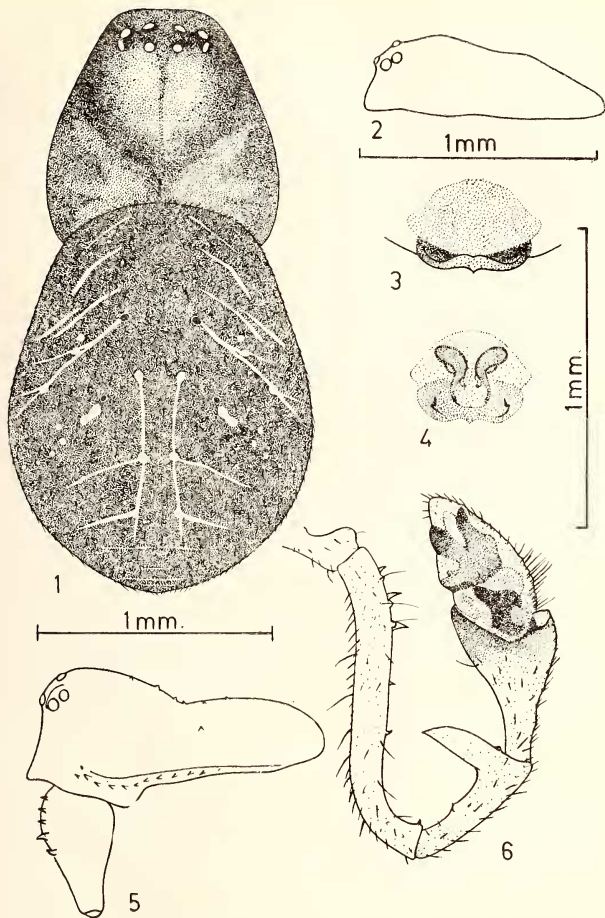
General: Cephalothorax and abdomen brown, legs brownish green. Total length 2.50 mm. Cephalothorax 1.00 mm long, 0.80 mm wide; abdomen 1.80 mm long; 1.20 mm wide.

Cephalothorax: Longer than wide, convex, cephalic region high, narrowing anteriorly. Eyes pearly white, eight in two rows. Anterior row strongly recurved and posterior row nearly straight or slightly procurved. Sternum reddish brown, nearly triangular or heart-shaped. Labium wider than long, maxillae longer than wide, clothed with fine pubescence. Legs moderately strong, clothed with hairs and spine-like hairs, legs formula 1423. Male cephalothorax high and clothed with some spines as in text-fig. 5. Ventral side of femur of male palp provided with teeth like spines extending from base to one half of length as in text-fig. 6. Male palp with well-defined tibial apophysis apically as in text-fig. 6.

Abdomen: Longer than wide, wider behind, clothed with fine pubescence and strongly overlapping cephalothorax in front. Dorsal side provided with pale rod like and rounded patches as in text-fig. 1. Ventral side shining reddish brown. Epigyne as in text-fig. 3 and internal genitalia as in text-fig. 4.

Type-specimen: *Holotype* one female, *paratype* ten females and *allotype* five males in spirit.

NEW DESCRIPTIONS



Figs. 1-6. *Erigone rohtangensis* sp. nov. 1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted; 2. Lateral view of cephalothorax of female; 3. Epigyne; 4. Internal genitalia; 5. Lateral view of cephalothorax of male; 6. Left palp outer side view.

Type-locality: Rohtang Pass (Alt. 3955 m near Manali, Himachal Pradesh) India, on 12th October 1979 at mid-noon from a snow covered niche below stones.

Coll. Dr. R. K. Varshney.

Discussion: This species appears to be closely related to *Erigone dentipalpis* (Wider) but is separated as follows: (i) Abdomen brown but in *E. dentipalpis* abdomen yellow brown. (ii) Male palp also different.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am thankful to Dr. R. K. Varshney, for sending the spiders for study. Thanks are also due to Shri P. W. Garde and Shri D. J. Kamble, artists of this station for preparation of illustrations and to Dr. Animesh Bal, for assisting in various ways during the preparation of the manuscript.

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A NEW MEMECYLON L. (MELASTOMATACEAE) FROM TAMIL NADU, INDIA¹

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(With eight text-figures)

Memecylon subramanii sp. nov.

M. hookeri sensu Henry & Subr. in Bull. bot. Surv. India 13: 165. 1971 (1973), non Thwaites 1859.

Memecyoni hookeri Thwaites affinis, differens tamen floribus amplioribus, cymis pedunculatis atque laxis aggregatis; pedunculis ad 12 cm longis, angulisque anguste alatis.

Allied to *Memecylon hookeri* Thwaites, but differs in: flowers larger, clustered in pedunculate lax cymes; peduncules up to 12 cm long and narrowly winged on angles.

Erect shrubs, 2-4 m tall, sparingly branched; bark grey, flaking off into small pieces; branchlets stout, strongly 4-angled with narrow wings

on the angles. Leaves 20-40 × 6.5-14 cm, opposite, sessile or subsessile, lanceate, coriaceous, glabrous, acuminate at apex, cordate at base, penninerved, veins prominent beneath, lateral veins numerous and joining an intramarginal vein; foliar sclereids filiform, mostly non-branched. Flowers 6-7 mm across, clustered in axillary (also in the axils of fallen leaves on old wood), lax pedunculate cymes; peduncles 6-12 cm long, 4-angled with narrow wings on angles; pedicels 6-9 mm long, slender, surrounded at base with an involucre of bracts; calyx 4-5 mm wide, truncate, shallowly 4-lobed, petals 4, each 3-4 mm across, bluish violet, broadly obovate or subrotund, concave, thin, imbricate in bud, easily dropped at anthesis; disc epigynous, shallowly striate with eight radiating ribs; stamens 8, anthers 1-1.5

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